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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 05725.0875-00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Alain BETHUNE et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1771  
Application No.: 09/824,244 ✓ ) Examiner: A. Sperty  
Filed: April 3, 2001 )  
For: OBJECT HAVING A DECORATIVE )  
PATTERN AND METHOD OF )  
APPLYING THE DECORATIVE )  
PATTERN )

**Mail Stop AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(d), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after a Final Action and is accompanied by a fee of \$180.00 as specified under § 1.17(p) and statements as specified under § 1.97(e) and § 704(d). Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart Japanese application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the

mailing date of that communication. In addition, that communication was not received by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

A copy of each of the listed documents is attached. In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the non-English documents, an English language version of the communication from the Japanese Patent Office citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Patent Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.


Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any additional fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement,  
please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

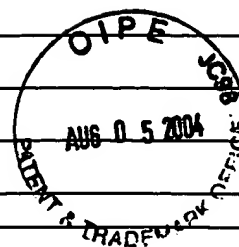
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: August 5, 2004

By:   
Anthony M. Gutowski  
Reg. No. 38,742

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	05725.0875-00	Appln. No.	09/824,244
Applicant	Alain BETHUNE et al.		
Filing Date	April 3, 2001	Group:	1771



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
A-H03-281786	12/12/1991	JP			No
A-H01-226399	09/11/1989	JP			No

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce